

**Committee on Equal Opportunities  
Council on Postsecondary Education  
October 17, 2011**

**Status: *Statewide Diversity Planning and Support Programs***

*The following information focuses on diversity activities and initiatives since the Committee on Equal Opportunities met September 8, 2011.*

**NAACP Postsecondary Education Panel Discussion:** CPE President Bob King participated in the NAACP Postsecondary Education Panel Discussion on September 24, 2011, with Representative Carl Rollins, Commissioner of Education Terry Holiday, and Kim Walters-Parker from the EPSB. KSU President Dr. Mary Sias served as moderator. The panelists discussed African American participation in postsecondary education with a focus on college and career readiness, student success, teacher quality, funding resources, and community support.

**Diversity and Inclusion Summit:** CPE President Bob King provided introductory remarks and introduced panelists at the 2011 Kentucky Summit on Diversity and Inclusion on September 28, 2011, in downtown Lexington. The session, *Minding Our Common Wealth*, focused on education, business, and non-profit organizations.

**The College Completion Agenda 2011 Progress Report and Policy Guide- Latino Edition:** Council staff attended a policy discussion on Capitol Hill on October 6, 2011. While much of the discussion focused on policy initiatives adopted and highlighted in the CPE Strategic Agenda, as well as the Statewide Diversity Policy, additional areas were highlighted that require increased attention at the K-12 level and on-going partnerships between CPE, KDE, and KHEAA to address Kentucky's low-income, minority, and underprepared populations. Recommendations made in the report include early childhood education programs, middle and high school counseling, implementing research based on drop-out prevention programs, aligning K-12 education with international standards/college admission expectations, improving teacher quality, simplifying the admissions process, providing more need-based grant aid, keeping college affordable, increasing college completion rates, and providing postsecondary opportunities as an essential element of adult education programs.

**Kentucky Department of Education Homeless Education Program Coordinators Training Meeting:** Council staff made a presentation at the KDE to a group of Homeless Education Program Coordinators on October 7, 2011, in downtown Frankfort. The coordinators learned about the Council's Strategic Agenda, the Statewide Diversity Policy and Institutional Diversity Plans, KnowHow2Go, early preparation for postsecondary education, and several CPE supported pass-through programs. KHEAA worked

collaboratively with CPE staff to inform the coordinators how to direct students to resources to finance their education.

**The Showcase of HBCU:** Council staff made a presentation at the Showcase of HBCU College & Career Fair for students in grades 8 – 12, on October 14, 2011, at the Kentucky International Convention Center in Louisville. The College & Career Fair is marketed predominantly to African American and other students who desire to attend an HBCU. More than 2,000 students, parents, educators, and volunteers from several counties participated in the event. The HBCU Showcase emphasizes education first by providing each student with an educational assignment. The assignments require students to attend college preparation workshops, career-planning sessions, and visit a specified number of college and university booths.

**SREB Doctoral Scholars Program:** The 18<sup>TH</sup> Annual SREB Doctoral Scholars Program Institute on Teaching and Mentoring will take place October 20-23, 2011, in Atlanta, Georgia. All scholars are expected to participate. Six of the Kentucky public postsecondary institutions will also participate in the 2011 Institute on Teaching and Mentoring Recruitment Fair. The recruitment fair will assist institutions with increasing the number of minority faculty at their institutions.

As of October 2011, 110 scholars have been served, 38 students are currently matriculating at Kentucky institutions, and 31 percent of these students are in the STEM +H areas. There are 60 program graduates and 7 of these have received tenure. Kentucky leads all SREB states in the number of graduates hired (14 in Kentucky), followed by 3 in Alabama, Georgia, Indiana, Maryland, and North Carolina.

**Governor's Minority Student College Preparation Program:** Council staff will work collaboratively with one of the universities to develop the 2012 GMSCPP Statewide Conference. Planning is underway.

**GMSCPP Academically Proficient African American High School Junior and Senior Conference:** The 25<sup>TH</sup> Annual Academically Proficient African American High School Junior and Senior Conference will be hosted by Centre College, June 2012. Conference planning is underway.